

CADET WHITAKER'S BACK HAIR.

An Impression Derived by Lieut. Dickinson in a Manner that he Does Not Explain.

Lieut. Walter M. Dickinson of Fort Sill, Indian Territory, looked at Cadet Whitaker's hair from behind when the latter was on his way to the hospital on the morning he was found bound and tied. Lieut. Dickinson was then First Lieutenant of Cadet Company C, at West Point.

"I thought," he testified at the court martial, yesterday, "that it was just the way I should cut my hair if I desired to disfigure myself."

The Lieutenant then illustrated to the nine military judges how he should have cut his hair. He ran his hand along the right side of his head, making frequent imaginary clippings with an imaginary pair of scissors. Then he made a couple of short snips at the back of his head, finally on the left side. The point he made was, that the clippings which were made upward and backward were at an angle that would naturally have been made if Whitaker had cut out the tufts of hair that were found on the floor. He formed the opinion, he thought, at this time that Whitaker cut their.

"I thought it was a good way for Whitaker to cut his hair if he desired to disfigure himself."

If it was a good way for Whitaker, why was it not a good way for anybody else who also had the desire to disfigure himself?

"It was my opinion that he did it."

Mr. Chamberlain pressed him again, and again in vain to give a reason. At last the lawyer said:

"Why would not another person standing over Whitaker, and desiring to disfigure him, cut his hair?"

"Because," said the witness, "they would have been apt to roll him over."

"You have got me now," said Major Merrill, a member of the court. "The four drops of blood on the Indian club looked to you as if they had been sprinkled from a man's fingers. You observe any drops of blood on the floor?"

"No sir."

"It did not occur to you that if Whitaker hit his hands in blood and sprinkled the drops on the club, some of the blood would have fallen on the floor also?"

"Did you examine Whitaker's fingers to see whether they were bloody?"

"I did not."

"Did you know your reason?" asked Col. Morrow.

"It might not have been that you thought Whitaker did it because it was Whitaker?"

"It might have been," the witness hesitatingly admitted, and then he added, "and it might not have been."

Major Gardner, the Judge Advocate, proposed to read in evidence the testimony of Col. Whitaker, but the court ruled that he could not do so.

One object of its introduction was that it is upon a part of this testimony that the charge of malice aforethought is based, and the circumstances of the case led me to form an opinion that he was guilty."

"It had a wise aspect," added the witness.

"Did you examine Whitaker's fingers to see whether they were bloody?"

"That may be true, your Honor, but please be merciful."

"You were disorderly. It took two men to bring you to trial. That may be true, your Honor, but please be merciful."

"I shall give you \$10."

"Judge, I give you a dollar. Won't you take it and let the rest in prison world be healthy for you?"

"Judge, I guess I can make \$8. You'll pay me \$8."

"Mr. Brown," said the Judge to a clerk, "take \$8 and give it to him."

"Mr. Brown, I'll send you the loss gross of the shop," said the accused man, as he left the court.

Mr. Chamberlain objected that article 121 of the code of military discipline, which provided that any criminal may be tried by a general court martial when the crime charged against an officer or non-commissioned officer is of a trifling character, was violated, that Col. Whitaker was an officer.

Mr. Chamberlain argued from the fact that he was a non-commissioned officer, and a captain and a gentleman.

The crime charged was punishable by dismissal from the service, and the court martial was not called to sit down.

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